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**CENTRAL WASHINGTON STATE
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer congratulations to four high school teams that continue to establish Central Washington as the football powerhouse of Washington State.

On December 5, (13–1) the Prosser High School Mustangs rolled over the Tumwater Thunderbirds to claim the Washington State 2A High School Football Championship. Led by a stellar defense, the Mustangs amassed four interceptions for the third time in the playoffs. This is Prosser's fifth state football championship.

Not to be outdone, the (13–1) Okanogan High School Bulldogs pulled off an amazing, nail-bitter win that you usually only see in the movies. Rallying from a 27–14 third quarter deficit, the Bulldogs pulled off a late-fourth quarter touchdown to defeat the Napavine Tigers 36–34. This was Okanogan's second straight Washington State 2B High School Football Championship.

Central Washington teams proved very successful in other divisions as well. In a Knights versus Knights face-off, the Royal High School Knights defeated the Kings' High School Knights in the Washington State 1A High School Championship. The win secured Royal's perfect (14–0) season, their first championship since 2007, and the school's fifth title. Particularly commendable is Royal's defense, which allowed a mere four and a half points average scored against the team throughout the season.

Finally, in another nerve-wracking finale, the (13–1) Almira Coulee Hartline High School Warriors edged out Lummi Nation Blackhawks 46–42 for the Washington State 1B High School Football title. Almira Coulee Hartline entered the fourth quarter down 42–38, but after recovering a Lummi fumble on the one yard line, the Warriors began a 99 yard drive that ended with a three yard touchdown with just a minute and a half left on the clock. This was also Almira Coulee Hartline's first title since 2007, and the school's third state championship.

Every one of these teams has proudly represented their school. These teams have demonstrated the level of skill, teamwork, and tenacity that will prepare them well for future seasons and for future success in life. Congratulations to Prosser, Okanogan, Royal, and Almira Coulee Hartline on a well-played football season.

A TRIBUTE TO PETER GOLD

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Peter Gold—an exceptional

young man and Good Samaritan who recently made a remarkably selfless and heroic decision to help another in need, putting his own safety at great risk.

While driving through New Orleans' Lower Garden District following his shift at a local hospital, Peter, a fourth year medical student at Tulane University, without regard for his own safety, rushed to the aid of a woman being attacked. Successfully foiling the crime, Peter was shot once in the abdomen before the perpetrator attempted to shoot him in the head twice with his gun jamming. A surveillance camera recorded the harrowing event. Its release, which millions have viewed, has been an inspiration, giving us hope as we face the realities of Edmund Burke's famous words, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

Coming from a family with a rich history of service in the health care field, Peter chose to follow in the footsteps of his father and grandfather. Like those who have come before him and those who will succeed him, Peter exemplifies the commitment to service that drives so many toward the health care profession and that was on display in the early morning hours of November 20, 2015 as Peter intervened to stop an armed robbery and attempted kidnapping.

I am honored to share this story with you today because the Gold Family resides in our Seventh Congressional District. Peter grew up in Longwood, Florida and is a graduate of Central Florida's own Lake Brantley High School. He is an outstanding testament to our community's and our nation's youth.

Our former President John Quincy Adams said, "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." Truly, Peter Gold has inspired others through his heroic actions. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Peter for his courageous act for the benefit for another human being.

WCJC—SECOND TO NONE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) for being named the best community college in Texas.

WCJC first opened its doors in 1946 in the small town of Wharton, Texas. Over the last 70 years, WCJC has grown and now boasts a total of four campuses across the Houston area. Today, WCJC strives to empower its over 7,000 students with programs that prepare them to succeed in the workforce or transition to a four-year institution. From liberal arts to nursing to business degrees, WCJC is filling a critical education and workforce training role for our communities and employers. I'm grateful that WCJC provides our students with so many opportunities to learn and grow.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to WCJC for being named the best of the best. We can't wait to see what the next 70 years brings you.

**HONORING WALTER HAZLITT FOR
SERVICE TO HIS COUNTRY AND
COMMUNITY**

HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the service of Walter Hazlitt.

It takes a special type of person to lead a life serving both country and community; Mr. Hazlitt is an example of this type of person. Mr. Hazlitt served as a Sergeant for three years in the U.S. Marine Corps in the Marine theatre in China where he selflessly protected our country during World War II. Following his service in the Marines, Mr. Hazlitt continued to serve his country and community, working diligently and tirelessly as both a Suffolk County Legislator and as a member of the Stony Brook Fire Department for fifty-five years, where he served as Chief and continues to serve today as Commissioner. In addition to the aforementioned, Mr. Hazlitt served as a member on the Board of Trustees at Suffolk Community College, dedicating his time to ensure that local youth on Long Island achieved the best education possible.

Mr. Hazlitt currently resides in Stony Brook, NY and is married to Mrs. Elizabeth Hazlitt. His daughter, Elizabeth Emerson, has followed in her father's footsteps of public service by serving as a New York State Supreme Court Justice.

What Mr. Hazlitt has managed to accomplish during his lifetime and give back to the country cannot be summarized in a few words; and it is my hope that many will follow in the footsteps of Mr. Hazlitt and give back to their country and community as graciously as he did. People like him are a rare breed and they help make our country and world a much safer and better place.

Today, I thank Walter for his years of dedication and service to our country and community, and wish him only the best in his future endeavors.

**THE OCCASION OF MR. JONATHAN
H. GARDNER'S RETIREMENT**

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize and congratulate Mr. Jonathan H. Gardner on the occasion of his retirement from his position as Director of the Southern Arizona Veterans Affairs Health Care System (SAVAHCS).

Mr. Gardner has dedicated over 36 years of serving our nation's heroes with distinction. Mr. Gardner's career with the Department of Veterans Affairs began as a Without Compensation (WOC) position, followed by progressive leadership assignments within the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) and the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) (i.e., VA Central Office (VACO), Network and facility). Mr. Gardner has a record of sustained extraordinary accomplishment that is recognized throughout DVA and acknowledged on a national level. As Director of SAVAHCs, his duties include the overall organization/operation